

## Scianni, Melissa

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**From:** Keener, Bill  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2015 3:48 PM  
**To:** Gaudario, Abigail;R9 Supervisors  
**Cc:** Barkett, Bonnie;Maier, Brent;Higuchi, Dean;Reyes, Deldi;PerezSullivan, Margot;Mogharabi, Nahal;Glosson, Niloufar;Harris-Bishop, Rusty;Hudnall, Patricia;Ford, Margaret;Henderson, Alita;COHEN, Deborra;Pratt, Kristen;Kemmerer, John;Meltzer, Kathy;Plenys, Thomas;Engelman, Alexa;Hood, Timonie;Blazej, Nova;Stollman, Scott;Johnson, AudreyL;Amato, Paul;Schmidt, David;Skadowski, Suzanne;Rao, Kate;Ty, Fatima;Kao, Jessica  
**Subject:** End of Day -- February 13, 2015

## MEDIA

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**LA Times:** Reporter Tony Barboza interviewed John Lyons and Dana Barton about the Montrose Superfund site. Wants to follow up to get more info next week. OPEN. Nahal Mogharabi.

**KQED Radio (Central Valley).** Reporter Alice Daniel working on a story for the California Report about the recent lawsuit by environmental groups to stop operations at a new oil-by-rail facility in Bakersfield. (v) OPEN Nahal Mogharabi

**Packaging Strategies (industry newsletter):** Editor Joyce Routson requested interview to discuss EPA's Region 9's pilot program on reducing food waste and packaging. Scheduling phone interview with LND-Zero Waste staff for Feb. 19, referring questions on broader EPA packaging waste reduction efforts to HQ and state efforts to CalRecycle. LND. OPEN. (v) Suzanne Skadowski

**San Francisco Bay "Mystery Goo" Bird Kill Investigation:** California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife issued a press release Thurs. with results of state and EPA laboratory analyses and investigation on the contents and source of a Jan. non-petroleum oil/fats spill: <http://www.sfchronicle.com/news/article/Mystery-goo-that-killed-birds-identified-6077977.php#/0>. Sent heads up on errors in a few news stories to state's press officer for possible correction. SFUND. CLOSED. (v) Suzanne Skadowski

**KQED Public Radio:** Science Web Producer Lindsey Hoshaw requested forecast of upcoming EPA regional actions and events for KQED's 'future files' calendar of news stories the station is interested in covering. Worked with program communications liaisons and sent brief list of possible future EPA items of interest. WTR/AIR/LND. CLOSED. (v) Suzanne Skadowski

**Bakersfield Californian:** Sent reporter Steven Mayer additional information regarding school bus rebates given to Central Valley communities following inquiry that came into HQ following national release earlier this week: CLOSED Contact: Margot Perez-Sullivan (v) Air

## WEB

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### Social Media:

Children's Health – Posted to our [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages about our voluntary [State School Environmental Health Guidelines](#).

### Web Updates:

Food to Energy – Posted a new study, [“Wasted Food to Energy: How Six Water Resource Recovery Facilities are Boosting Biogas Production and the Bottom Line,”](#) to the [Sustainable Water Infrastructure page](#) and to the [Anaerobic Digestion/Co-digestion page](#)

## CONGRESSIONAL & INTERGOVERNMENTAL

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**Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA-13):** Brent Maier and Sara Russell of our Grants Office had a follow up call today with Kaitlyn Goodman in the Congresswoman’s Oakland District Office to discuss our EPA’s grant programs. We discussed the possibility of the Congresswoman hosting a grants forum in the near future with invitees from other Federal Agencies as well as EPA. Brent shared some links to information on EPA Region IX Grants Office website and to Grants.gov.

**Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA-2):** A call is scheduled for next Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> week with Logan Feree, Senior Legislative Assistant with Congressman Jared Huffman’s DC office to discuss the UIC issue and interest in better understanding the following regarding the California UIC issue: “how these injections can continue in some cases if the state permits were issued in violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act. I saw that within California’s proposal for compliance included shutting by October up to 140 wells, but my understanding is that there was more than 2,500 wells that violated the Act. What’s the authority that allows them to continue to operate, at all, if their permits were improperly issued?” Brent has reached out to David Albright and Mike Montgomery in our Water Division to confirm their availability. Mike has confirmed his availability.

**Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA-14): Press Release: Congresswoman Speier Sends Letter to the Army Corps of Engineers Expressing Concern About Clean Water Act Permitting in San Francisco Bay, February 13, 2015 - Washington, DC –** Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-San Francisco/San Mateo Counties) sent a letter yesterday signed by ten other members of the Bay Area delegation to Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy, expressing concern about the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ upcoming decision as to whether the Redwood City Salt Plant site falls under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Speier warned the Army Corps that it should not adopt a novel, unilateral re-interpretation of the Clean Water Act that would be inconsistent with its past rulings and might limit the EPA’s ability to regulate similar post-industrial sites nationwide. The Army Corps of Engineers is considering whether the Redwood City Salt Plant site falls under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act. Previous Corps of Engineers determinations from 2010 and 2008 found that the Redwood City Salt Plant salt ponds are Waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Overturning this precedent could have broad consequences for federal protection of waters nationwide. “One agency should not unilaterally issue a ruling that guts the Clean Water Act’s jurisdiction,” said Speier. “We strongly urge the Corps to review their own precedents, provide due process, and fully consult with the EPA, Congress, and other stakeholders before they decide that certain sites are not worthy of protection.”

**President Obama Nominations for EPA:** President Obama resubmitted his nominations for Jane Nishida and Ann Dunkin to the EPA last night. They were nominated last year to be the Agency’s Assistant Administrators for International and Tribal Affairs and Environmental Information, respectively. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/02/12/presidential-nominations-sent-senate>

- Ann Elizabeth Dunkin, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, vice Malcolm D. Jackson, resigned.
- Jane Toshiko Nishida, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, vice Michelle DePass, resigned.

**GAO Report:** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) today released the following report: *Hazardous Waste: Agencies Should Take Steps to Improve Information on USDA’s and Interior’s Potentially Contaminated Sites*, GAO-15-35, January 16, 2015. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-35>

**Western Republicans' Report Outlines 'Principles' for Stewardship:** Congress should reduce the size of the federal estate, increase domestic energy production and promote multiple uses of public lands, including grazing and forestry management, according to a new report issued by Western Republicans. The [report](#) by the Congressional Western Caucus and the Senate Western Caucus lays out several "principles" that will guide the two groups' energy, environmental, agricultural, forestry and judicial policies in the 114th Congress. - **Phil Taylor, E&E reporter**

**Upcoming: EPA to Meet with Oxnard, CA vice Mayor Pro Tem** - On Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, EPA will meet with Vice Mayor Pro Tem Carmen Ramirez to discuss the city's interest in complete remediation of the Halaco Superfund site and discuss future opportunities for the site. Among the city's objectives is creation of a renowned wildlife refuge and providing a framework for the development of a world class district focused on education, research, commerce and coastal recreation related to agriculture and sustainability. Vice Mayor Ramirez will also express her appreciation for the efforts of Region IX to find a solution for removing slag pile at the site. She has noted that the region has and continues to be a great partner. She also looks forward to extending an invitation to Administrator McCarthy to visit the area and observe firsthand the opportunities the city believes are there for future reuse. Brent Maier has shared information regarding this upcoming meeting with Wayne Praskins and John Lyons in Superfund Division. OCIR Contact: M. Arnita Hannon Christmon